

REMARKS

Claim amendments

Claims 27, 33, 36 and 37 have been amended to correct clerical and/or grammatical errors. No claims have been deleted or added. Hence, claims 21-52 remain pending.

Elections

In response to the restriction requirement set forth in the outstanding Office Action, Applicants hereby provisionally elect: Group I, claim(s) 26-40, drawn to a supramolecular polymer.

In response to the election of species requirement, Applicants elect the following species to serve as the starting point for the Examiner's search:

polymer (c)—{(a)_p—(b)_q}_v—wherein monomeric unit (a) is represented by Formula VIa of claim 37, wherein the 4H-unit is connected to a reactive group (F₁) via R₁ and a reactive group (F₁) or (F₂) via R₂, whereas R₃ is a random side chain or a hydrogen atom, the random side chain being a linear, cyclic or branched alkyl group comprising 1 to 7 carbon atoms; and

wherein monomeric unit (b) is represented by Formula VIII of claim 38, wherein F₁ and F₂ are —OH, and P is a hydrogenated polyolefin.

Claims 26-40 encompass the elected species. Applicants understand, however, that once the elected species is determined to be allowable, the Examiner will consider the patentability of the generic claims. 37 C.F.R. § 1.141.

Applicants respectfully traverse the Restriction and Election of Species Requirement on the grounds that the Office has not shown that there would be a serious burden to examine all of the claims together. As set forth in MPEP § 803, there must be a serious burden on the Examiner if restriction is required. Because a burden must be shown, and because the Office has not demonstrated such a burden, Applicants respectfully request that the Restriction and Election of Species Requirement be withdrawn.

Conclusion

Should there be any question regarding this submission, or should any issue remain, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney of record at the telephone number set forth below in order to advance prosecution.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing or a credit card payment form being unsigned, providing incorrect information resulting in a rejected credit card transaction, or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicants hereby petition for such extension under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extension fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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